



A CLEAN WATER PARTNERSHIP

You know you and your neighbors want to clean up your water, but you don't know where to start on a watershed plan? You've never written a news release? Not a problem.

By partnering with your local soil and water conservation district (SWCD) and the DNR, DSC and NRCS, you can apply for grants that provide funding to plan your project and get it on the ground.

The grants also offer the combined expertise of DNR, DSC and NRCS in all things watershed. We can help you assess your watershed for problems, guide the project along, give advice on the right technical tools and practices to use, and even help you with a public relations effort.

When you partner with your SWCD, DNR, DSC and NRCS, you can expect assistance with:

- Watershed planning and assessment
- Project guidance and evaluation
- Technical support
- Public relations support
- Technical tools
- Funding
- Creating new partnerships
- Assistance with project tasks
- Monitoring planning and implementation



Watershed projects can improve water, soil and air, benefitting your entire community, including humans, wildlife, fish and plants. That can lead to improved quality of life, recreation and tourism.



IOWA SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS



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Creating clean water for Iowa

PARTNERING FOR STRONGER WATERSHED PROJECTS

clean water
starts with you.



Watershed practices help landowners make changes on the land to improve water quality. Conservation practices, like this wetland, help keep pollutants from washing into our lakes, streams and rivers.

MAKE AN IMPACT ON IOWA'S WATER

Clean water for Iowa starts with you. When it comes to improving our state's water, individual Iowans make the difference. That's because you know your local lake, backyard stream or riverfront better than anyone, and you can make changes in your community. But you don't have to go it alone.

You can make an even stronger impact by coming together as a group at a local level to control the amount of pollution reaching your hometown stream, river or lake. Your local soil and water conservation district, the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship – Division of Soil Conservation (DSC) and USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) can help with funding, planning, guidance, technical assistance and more.

WATERSHED PROJECT BASICS

An organized watershed project, led by a local coordinator, works with landowners and residents to make changes on land that drains into a lake, river or stream (a watershed). Those changes help prevent pollutants from reaching our water, protecting the water we use, conserving productive topsoil and sustaining the quality of life we value as Iowans.

Watershed projects aim to enhance Iowa's waters by targeting problem areas in a watershed. Organized projects can provide financial assistance to landowners to use conservation practices, which are ways to manage the land – urban or rural – for better water quality. Projects can also organize different volunteer and community events to help improve water quality.



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BE IOWA'S NEXT SUCCESS

While there's much work left to do in improving our state's lakes, rivers and streams, Iowans have already made a difference – and you can be next.

For examples of some of our most successful Iowa watershed projects, visit the DNR watershed improvement website at <http://watershed.iowadnr.gov/success.html>.

For more on watershed improvement, visit: <http://watershed.iowadnr.gov>
www.iowaagriculture.gov
www.ia.nrcs.usda.gov